

DIARY 2 (PART A)

1863 JUL 21 - 1863 SEP 17

at Winchester  
The army passed  
through Winchester this  
morning about ten o'clock  
when I rejoined my  
Battalion. During the  
whole of the time that

July 23rd 1863

clear. The army passed  
through Winchester this  
morning about ten o'clock  
when I rejoined my  
Battalion. During the  
whole of the time that

The army was encamped  
near Darksville, it was  
engaged in making  
raids upon, and tearing  
up, the Baltimore & Ohio  
Rail-Road. Took the  
"Front Royal", crossing the  
"Shenandoah" on portion  
bridge at a point several  
miles from "Front Royal".  
Whilst crossing the por-  
tion, heard heavy firing  
in the direction of "Ches-  
ter Gap", which we soon  
found to be occupied  
by the Yankees - Made  
certain demonstrations,  
which induced the en-  
emy to believe that we  
intended an advance;  
forced them completely;

counter-marched, and  
encamped near, or ra-  
ther in the suburbs of  
"Front Royal". Distance  
marched to day twenty  
three miles -

bridge at a point  
miles from "Front Royal".  
Whitely crossing the pon-  
tous, heard heavy firing  
in the direction of "Ches-  
ter Gap", which we soon  
found to be occupied  
by the Yankees - made  
certain demonstrations,  
which induced the en-  
emy to believe that we  
intended an advance;  
forced them completely;

countermarched, and  
encamped near, or ra-  
ther in the suburbs of  
"Front Royal". Distance  
marched to day twenty  
three miles.

July, 24th. 1863

Clear. Resumed our  
march this morning at  
11 o'clock A.M. - passed  
through "Front Royal" a  
little after sun-rise - and  
encamped in the "Luray  
road" about thirteen miles  
from "Front Royal", and  
twelve from "Luray".

July 25th. 1863

Hot & dusty. Resumed  
our march this morning  
at five & a half o'clock,  
and encamped at  
3 o'clock, P.M. about  
three miles from Vinay.  
It rained heavily all  
night.

July 26th 1863

Clear. To day had inspec-

tion and drill Parade.  
Whilst encamped here,  
Sami F. and myself  
had several excellent  
lunches and good meals -

July 27th. 1863

night

July 26th 1863

Clear. To day had inspec-

tion and dup Parade.  
Whites Encamped here.  
Dini T. and myself  
had several excellent  
lunds and good meals -

July 27th 1863

Rainy. Broke camp  
this morning about  
8 & 1/2 o'clock; took  
the Sperryville road;  
passed over the "Blue-  
Ridge" at "Thanton's  
Gap," and encamped  
on a hill near Sperryville.  
Distance marched to-day.

fourteen miles. Found  
here the greatest profu-  
sion of blacks, and  
dun-burys, which I ate  
daily, and enjoyed  
greatly. I considered  
them a luxury, com-  
pared with our scant  
rations, they being as  
large and fine as  
if they had been cul-  
tivated as a crop -

July, 28th 1843

Clear. This morning, at  
sun-rise, had one of

the most beautiful,  
and picturesque moun-  
tain views I have ever  
witnessed. Marched  
through Perryville  
this morning at 5½ o'clock  
A.M. and took the  
road to Madison C. H.  
and encamped at 1

large and  
if they had been cul-  
tivated as a crop -

July, 28th 1863

Clear. This morning, at  
sun-rise, had one of

the most beautiful,  
and picturesque Indian  
Sav. mounds we have ever  
witnessed. Marched  
through Perryville  
this morning at 5 1/2 o'clock  
A.M. and took the  
road to Madison C. H.  
and encamped at 1  
o'clock P.M. in a hill  
surrounded by moun-  
tains. Distance mar-  
ched to day ten miles.

July, 29th 1863

Rainy. Resumed our

march at 6 o'clock, a.  
M. and passed over  
a very rough and hilly  
country: and streams  
greatly swollen from  
the recent rains -

July 30th 1863

Clear and exceedingly  
warm. Remained  
in camp all day -

July 31st 1863

Clear and warm. In  
the morning, had com-  
pany drill, and in the  
Evening Battalion drill &  
drum parade, at 7 o'  
clock broke camp, crossed  
the Robinsons River -  
passed through Mad-  
ison C. H. (a very pretty  
little country village),

July 30th 1863  
Clear and exceedingly  
warm. Remained  
in camp all day.

July 31st 1863

Clear and warm. In  
the morning, had from  
pany drill, and in the  
Evening Battalion drill &  
drill parade, at 7 o'  
clock broke camp, moved  
the Robinsons River -  
passed through Mad-  
ison C. H. (a very pretty  
little country village)  
and encamped late  
in the night three miles  
beyond on the road to Orange  
C. H. The winter was, at  
this time, very nearly "play-  
ed out" by the long & try-  
ing Pennsylvania cam-  
paign, scant & bad ra-  
tions - lack of sleep &  
rest - constant expo-  
sure to sun & rain - &c.  
The men were engaged

during the whole night  
in cooking, rations, and  
then were compelled to  
march at day break.

Aug. 1st 1863

Hottest day of the  
whole year, with dust  
as fine as powder, sett-  
ling upon every body &  
everything, and with  
not a breath of air  
stirring, and not a  
cloud to interrupt the  
burning rays of the  
fiery sun. Being very

sick, and altogether  
exhausted & played  
out, had, for the first  
time, to ride in an  
ambulance. Accom-  
plished a march  
of fifteen miles, and  
encamped about three  
miles from Orange Co.  
H. Vance numbers of

Horrid day of the  
whole year, with dust  
as fine as powder, nat-  
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burning rays of the  
fiery Sun. Being very

sick, and altogether  
exhausted & played  
out, had, for the first  
time, to ride in an  
ambulance. Accom-  
plished a march  
of fifteen miles, and  
encamped about three  
miles from Orange Co.  
H. Large numbers of  
our men lay on the road  
side completely ex-  
hausted and unable  
to proceed farther,  
and a great many  
 died of sun-stroke -

Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> - 1863

clear and intensely  
warm. Whilst encamp-  
ed here (3 miles from  
Orange C. H.) our L. W.  
issued under cloth-  
ing &c to the troops;  
and I tried to keep  
cool, by going in my  
shirt & drawers, and  
keeping in the shade.  
Suffering, at this time,  
greatly from heat &  
dysentery.

Aug. 5th 1863

Still very hot, but a  
very refreshing shower  
in the afternoon.

Aug. 6th 1863

Clear, and exceedingly

Resting in the shade.  
Suffering, at this time,  
greatly from heat &  
drenching.

Aug. 5th 1863

Still very hot, but a  
very refreshing shower  
in the afternoon.

Aug. 6th 1863

Clear, and exceedingly  
hot. To day, struck  
our tents, and laid out  
a permanent camp in  
fine oak woods about  
a mile distant from the  
old site, on the road  
to "Liberty Mills", and  
about one mile from the  
Rapids - in which  
we had a fine time.

washing and bathing  
While encamped here  
Willie was taken  
very ill with ty-  
phoid fever, and  
I had great diffi-  
culty with the Sur-  
geon in getting him  
off to the Hospital.  
My quarrel with Dr.  
Snowden - on subject -

Aug. 7th. 1863

Clear and exceedingly -  
by Capt. J. S. Franklin

Left camp to day for  
hospital in Orange Co.  
H.

Aug. 29th 1863

off to the Hospital.  
My quarrel with Dr.  
Snowden - on subject -

Aug. 7th 1863

Cross and boarding -  
by Capt. J. S. Franklin

Left camp to day for  
Hospital in Orange Co.  
H.

Aug. 29th 1863

From Aug. 7th to Aug. 29th  
nothing worthy of note  
occurred; all engaged  
on the regular camp du-  
ties and avocations - ac-  
tivities and monoto-  
nous as they are - To day,  
Capt. J. S. Franklin, re-  
turned to camp from  
Hospital at Charlottesville.  
Rained quite heav-

ily.

Aug. 30th 1863

Clear and quite cool.

Aug. 31st 1863

Clear and cool. To day,  
our Division (Gen. Edmund  
Johnson's) was paraded  
in a large field near  
Orange C. H. by Gen. C. W.

ell.

Sept 1st. 2nd. 1863

Clear, and nothing of  
interest on "Capis"

Aug. 31st. 1863

Clear and cool. To day,  
our Division (9th. Colored  
Johnson's) was paraded  
in a large field near  
Orange C. H. by Gen. C. W.

C. W.

Sept 1st. 2nd. 1863

Clear. and nothing of  
interest on "Cape"

Sept. 3rd 1863

Clear. To day received  
our new "Battle Flag". Bear-  
ing the inscriptions "Win-  
chester" and "Gellogburg".  
These inscriptions on Battle  
Flags are allowed only by  
the authority of the Com.

Mandant civ chief.

Sept. 24th. 1863

Clear.

Sept. 5th 1863

Clear, with nothing of  
special interest, but  
the execution of some de-  
serters. To day about  
4 o'clock P.M. ten men,  
all belonging to the 3rd  
S.C. Cavalry, were shot  
for the double crime of

desertion and Murder;  
having deserted, and  
then murdered the offi-  
cer sent in pursuit of  
them. The name of the  
officer killed, was Lt.  
Mason, of the 3rd S.C.  
Cavalry. The whole Di-  
vision was marched  
to the drill ground, and  
formed into three sides  
of a hollow square. On

Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> 1863

blows, with nothing of  
special interest, with  
the execution of some de-  
serters. To day about  
4 o'clock P.M. ten men,  
all belonging to the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
S.C. Carolina, were shot  
for the double crime of

desertion and murder;  
having deserted, and  
then murdered the offi-  
cer sent in pursuit of  
them. The name of the  
officer killed, was Lt.  
Mason, of the 3<sup>rd</sup> S.C.  
Carolina. The whole di-  
vision was marched  
to the drill ground, and  
formed into three sides  
of a hollow square, on  
the 4<sup>th</sup> side, ten stakes  
were planted. each with  
its white handkerchief, &  
coffin. The firing party  
consisted of 120 men,  
divided into ten  
squads, each under  
command of their re-  
spective line officers,  
and the whole, under

command of M<sup>rs</sup> Wood,  
17th M., after the reading  
of the sentences, and pray-  
er by the Rev. Mr. Patterson,  
the prisoners were con-  
ducted to their respective  
~~stages~~, and after haul-  
ing down, were secured,  
primed to the ampu-  
tation, and blind-  
folded. The squads were  
then filed in front of  
the stakes (Lt. Frank Shaw  
having the command  
of one from one Battalion)  
and at the word of  
command from M<sup>rs</sup>  
Wood - and repeated  
by officers of the squads,  
a simultaneous fire  
was delivered, and

the poor, unfortunate  
men, lay weltering in  
their blood. Most of the  
prisoners were killed  
on the spot, but a few, not  
being quite dead, the  
rescue, consisting of  
two men out of each 13,  
were brought up, and  
immediately fired; when  
the fullest retribution was  
administered, and the  
scene was over.

prisoners and blind -  
of the dead. The squads were  
the whole in front of  
the statues (at Versailles)  
having the command  
of one from one Battalion  
and at the end of  
commands from Major  
Words - and repeated  
by officers of the squad,  
a simultaneous fire  
was delivered, and

the poor, unfortunate  
men, lay mellowing in  
their blood. Much of the  
prisoners were killed  
on the spot, but a few, not  
being quite dead, the  
rescue, consisting of  
two men out of each 12,  
were brought up, and  
immediately fired; when  
the fullest retribution was  
administered, and the  
solemn scene was over.  
Though I have seen  
death in its most horrid  
forms, and the human  
body mangled in the  
most awful manner,  
I never felt more gloomy  
and solemn than on  
this occasion. No one,  
on an occasion of this

character. Know whether  
his gun contains a ball or  
not, as two in each squad  
of ten are loaded with  
blank cartridges, and the  
guns are given to the  
men without examina-  
tion. The poor condemned  
deserters, turned very  
penitents, and did  
apparently, very devout  
in their contrition, ad-  
mitting, a short while  
previous to their execu-  
tion, the justice of their  
sentence.

Sept. 6th. 7th & 8th 1863

Nothing of interest worth  
any notice, save the ex-  
ercising drill; company  
drill in the morning, and  
Brigade drill in the af-  
ternoon. Of drill-pieces  
and inspections we  
also had our fill, they  
being rigidly kept up  
during our whole stay at  
Orange Court House.

of sentiment, and die to  
opportunity, very devout  
in their contribution, ad-  
miring, a short while  
previous to their occu-  
pation, the justice of their  
conduct.

Sept 6th & 7th 1863

Nothing of interest worth  
of note, save the ex-  
ercising Mills; company  
mills in the morning, and  
Brigade Mills in the af-  
ternoon. Of drill-pieces  
and inspections we  
also had our fill, they  
being rigidly kept up  
during our whole stay at  
Orange Court House.

Sept 9th 1863

Clear. To day our whole  
Camps, Erwell's, was review-

led by Gen Lee, in a large  
field near Orange Co. N.  
It was a very grand af-  
fair, though tedious, con-  
sisting nearly the entire  
day. In the Camp, num-  
bering about twenty five  
thousand men, 25,000,  
to pass a given point

Sept.

10th 11th 12th &  
13th 1863

Nothing of interest oc-  
curred worthy of record.  
While! Encamped here.

Our command contin-  
ued to picket at "Jacks  
shop", about three and  
a half miles from Camp,  
and two from Liberty  
Mills.

Sept. 14th. 1863

Sept.

Wed. 12th +  
Wed. 13th

Nothing of interest oc-  
curred worthy of record.  
While encamped here.

Our commands continued  
and to picket at Jack's  
shop, about three and  
a half miles from Camp,  
and two from Liberty  
Mills.

Sept. 14th. 1863

Cloudy. The enemy hav-  
ing been reported advan-  
cing, left camp at day-  
break, and bivouacked  
one mile beyond Orange  
Co. H. Had a slight  
shower of rain. Two pie-  
ces of the Bal. Light Ar-  
tillery, and a detach-

ment of men were captured  
on yesterday near Cul-  
peper Court House.

Sept. 13th & 16th 1863

Still surrounded on  
the field, near Orange  
Court House. Gen Geo-  
H. Stuart's guard with  
Capt Gwynn of Co. "F"  
of the Battalion, about  
the rails.

Sept. 14th 1863

St. Franklin left camp  
& day for hospital in  
Charlottesville. The date  
of our return to camp not  
recollcted. The cir-  
cumstances that hap-

Still living on  
the field, near Orange  
Court House. Gen Geo.  
H. Stuart's quarrel with  
Capt Gwynne of Co "F"  
of the National, about  
the rails

Sept. 14th 1863

St. Franklin left camp  
4 day for hospital in  
Charlottesville. The date  
of our return to camp not  
recollcted. The cir-  
cumstances that hap-  
pened subsequently to  
the above <sup>date</sup> and up to  
November 1st 1863, are,  
as they stand recorded  
in this diary, perfectly  
correct, but their dates  
are not remembered.

Sometime in September,  
we abandoned our  
camp near Orange  
Court House; marched  
through the little town,  
encamping about ten  
miles thence. The next  
morning resumed our  
march, and about two  
hours after dark, ar-  
rived at the Rapids.  
The whole of this night  
was occupied in throw-  
ing up fortifications,  
digging rifle-pits, post-  
ing men &c. Our Compa-  
ny was sent out on picket  
at a point directly  
opposite a Yankee  
Battery, and imme-  
diately on the River.

During the night, one  
or two of our Regt. men  
who had recently joined  
it, and who were not  
Marylanders, forded  
the River, and went over  
to the Enemy. One, how-  
ever, was hailed whilst  
he was in the middle  
of the river, and made

hours after dark, ar-  
rived at the Rapids.  
The whole of this night  
was occupied in throw-  
ing up fortifications,  
digging rifle-pits, post-  
ing men &c. One Compa-  
ny was sent out on picket  
at a point directly  
opposite a Yankee  
Battery, and imme-  
diately on the River -

During the night, one  
or two of our Regt. men  
who had recently joined  
it and who were not  
Yankee-soldiers, forded  
the River, and went over  
to the Enemy. One, how-  
ever, was killed whilst  
he was in the middle  
of the river, and made  
to come back. He was  
kept in irons for a  
long time - confined  
in "Castle Thunder" &c,  
but was never tried -  
Whilst Encamped on  
the "Rapids" Geo.  
Grammer, Corporal in  
Co. "A" whilst his Com-  
pany was on picket,  
deliberately shot him-  
self through the hands.

losing a finger - a short  
time before this, another  
man, a member of Com-  
pany "D" shot one of  
his fingers off, for the  
purpose of obtaining  
a discharge; but in this  
he was disappointed.  
We remained encamp-  
ed on the "Rapidan"  
several days, offering  
battles to Meade and  
his vandals, but fail-  
ed to get accommo-  
dated. Spoiling for  
a fight, and failing  
to inveigle old Meade  
into an advance upon  
our position, we de-  
termined to attack  
him - and consequent-

ly, one night, broke our  
camps on the Rapidan,  
leaving only enough to  
decieve, and took up  
our line of March for  
his rear - Our march  
on this occasion was  
one of the most tiring  
and fatiguing it was  
ever one about four days  
after we began our

on the 10th of  
several days, offering  
battle to Meade and  
his vandals, but fail-  
ed to get accommo-  
dated. Spoiling for  
a fight, and failing  
to invade old Meade  
into an advanced upon  
in position, we de-  
termined to attack  
him, and consequent-

ly, one night, broke our  
camps on the Rappahannock,  
leaving only enough to  
decide, and took up  
our line of March for  
his rear - Our march  
on this occasion was  
one of the most tiring  
and fatiguing I was  
ever on, about four days  
after we began our  
march, we stumbled  
upon old Meade's rear,  
and treated it pretty  
shamefully, compelling  
them to leave their dead  
and wounded on the  
field, and seek refuge  
in a precipitate re-  
treat, or rather "hasty  
flight". All concern-  
ing the crackers found

in the Yankee camps,  
the drums raised over  
them. General Geo. H.  
Stuart's action on the  
occasion, the halting  
of the Brigade - his an-  
swers to the Regiments  
generally, and to me  
particularly - calling  
us "Plug-Ugly's" "Rip-  
saw" "Blood-beds", and  
everything generally -  
On one occasion, we  
got so near, as we thought,  
to the Yankees, that we  
doubtless quickened three  
miles in order to get  
at them, but found  
when we got to the end  
of our journey, that  
they had outstripped

us, getting over the  
ground in a remark-  
ably hasty manner -  
Failing to induce the  
our cols to fight, we  
did all that could  
have been done, we  
compelled them to seek  
safety in inglorious  
flight - After all of our  
marching, finding of

no thing. Myself, rep-  
sents "Blood-bath", and  
Every thing, Generally.  
On one occasion, we  
got so near, as we thought,  
to the Martens, that we  
doubtless - quitted three  
miles in order to get  
at them, but found  
that we got to the end  
of our journey, that  
they had outstripped

us, getting on the  
ground in a remark-  
ably hasty manner -  
Failing to induce the  
warriors to fight, we  
did all that could  
have been done, we  
compelled them to seek  
safety in ignominious  
flight. After all of our  
marching, fasting of  
mice, endurance of  
privations & sufferings  
of the most trying char-  
acter, had to abandon  
the chase, and, like  
the tired and fatigued  
hunter, seek our rests  
again. Discovered at  
a new, "Brandy Station",  
where we remained until  
we received orders from

the Herb. Es. of the Army.  
to report to Bradley T.  
Johnson, at "Narrow Jan-  
tion". Whilst encamped  
near "Brandy Station", the  
Army constructed very  
fine "Winter Quarters", but  
were compelled, after all  
their labor and pains,  
to abandon them to the  
Enemy, and leave un-  
sheltered, and, almost  
unclad, the beating &  
unfriendly rains, and  
hails, and snows that  
followed. My more  
correct & precise diary  
of the War, begins with  
November 1st 1863 -

Enemy, and saw an-  
shattered, and, almost  
obliterated, the beating &  
unfriendly rains, and  
hails, and snows that  
followed. My more  
correct opinion being  
of the War, begins with  
November 1st 1865-